

Analysis and Management of Vertebrate Populations and Communities (WIS 6934)

We have received a few inquiries regarding some details pertaining to the above course. Response to those queries and other relevant details follow:

1. **Syllabus:** Attached. There may be some minor changes in the course content but we do not anticipate any major change
2. **Meeting schedule:** See the syllabus. The will meet 8:00 am – 5:00 pm every day (Saturday – Saturday, except Sunday)
3. **Computer and software requirements:** You must bring a laptop with the relevant software installed. All of the software used in this course are available for free downloads:
 - a. **MARK, PRESENCE** (<http://www.mbr-pwrc.usgs.gov/software.html>; <http://www.phidot.org/software/>)
 - b. **R, RMark** (<http://cran.r-project.org/>)
 - c. **RStudio** (<http://www.rstudio.com/products/rstudio/>)
 - d. **RPresence** (under development – not yet available for download)

We strongly encourage students explore these software and relevant documentations prior to the class. We have limited time to cover many topics. A basic understanding of the above software would facilitate the learning and teaching.

4. **Textbook and reading material:** Lecture notes and other reading materials will be provided, and there is no required textbook. However, you might find the following print or e-books helpful:
 - a. Analysis and management of animal populations (http://www.amazon.com/Analysis-Management-Animal-Populations-Williams/dp/0127544062/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1422894148&sr=8-1&keywords=James+D+Nichols)
 - b. Occupancy estimation and modeling (http://www.amazon.com/Occupancy-Estimation-Modeling-Infering-Occurrence/dp/0120887665/ref=sr_1_3?ie=UTF8&qid=1422894201&sr=8-3&keywords=James+D+Nichols)
 - c. The MARK book (<http://www.phidot.org/software/mark/docs/book/>)
5. **Preparation for the course:** We strongly encourage students to have some basic understanding of the topics covered in the course. The above books would be an excellent starting points for us all. The MARK book is freely available, easy to read/follow, and offers an excellent introduction to many ideas
6. **Exam:** This is NOT an “A” for participation class. Graduate students enrolled in this course must take the exam (given on the last day of the class) and earn their grades.